

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions.

1-17. **(CANCELED).**

18. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A method of identifying a human subject having an increased likelihood of having an increased physiological response to psychological stress, wherein said physiological response is increased blood pressure, comprising detecting the presence of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele in the subject, whereby the presence of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele identifies the subject as having an increased likelihood of having an increased physiological response to psychological stress.

19. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A method of identifying a human subject having an increased likelihood of developing a cardiovascular disease ~~associated within~~ response to an increased physiological response to psychological stress, wherein said physiological response is increased blood pressure, comprising detecting the presence of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele in the subject, whereby the presence of at least one serotonin transporter gene promoter long allele identifies the subject as having an increased likelihood of an increased physiological response to psychological stress and thereby as having an increased likelihood of developing a cardiovascular disease ~~associated within~~ response to an increased physiological response to psychological stress.

20-22. **(CANCELED).**

23. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The method of claim 19, wherein the cardiovascular disease is hypertension.

24. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The method of claim 19, wherein the cardiovascular disease is coronary heart disease.

25. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The method of claim 19, wherein the cardiovascular disease is stroke.

26. **(CANCELED).**